

REMARKS

In the outstanding final office action, the Examiner rejected pending claims 14 – 23 under §§ 102 in view of Alex *et al* in U.S. Patent No. 6,412,528. As discussed below, Alex *et al* does not anticipate or render obvious amended claim 14 submitted herewith, or claims 15 to 23 directly or indirectly dependent thereon. As such, the Applicants respectfully request that these claims be allowed.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 102

The Examiner rejected claims 14 – 23 as being anticipated by Alex *et al*.

As stated, the Applicants have amended pending claim 14. Amended claim 14 clarifies the scope of protection being sought for the Applicants' unique dispensing apparatus and is fully supported by the specification as filed, for example, Figures 3 & 4. No new matter has been entered.

Alex *et al* does not disclose the claimed dispensing apparatus as it does not include, *inter alia*, a deformable envelope defining a space, configurable to receive fluid from a supply container by action of a pressure differential and operatively associated with an inlet for fluid flow *thereto*; and a sealing member *laterally separated* from the deformable envelope, biased to a closed position that prevents a flow between said inlet and said outlet, and movable to allow said flow in an open position. Rather, with reference to Figures 3 and 4 of Alex *et al* the bellows 4 and the poppet valve 18 are substantially coaxially mounted.

For at least these reasons, the Applicants believe that amended claim 14 and claims 15 to 23 directly or indirectly dependant thereon, are allowable over Alex *et al* and allowance of claims 14 – 23 is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully submit that all of the presently pending claims are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the present Amendment be considered and entered, the rejections to the claims be cancelled, and that the case now be passed to issue.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the number below to expedite resolution of any issues the Examiner may consider to remain unresolved. In particular, should a Notice of Allowance not be forthcoming, the Examiner is requested to phone the undersigned for a telephonic interview, an Examiner's amendment, or the like, while the outstanding issues are fresh in the mind of the Examiner.

Authorization is hereby given to charge our Deposit Account No. 13-0235 for the fee for the Two-Month Extension of Time and for the Request for Continued Examination. It is believed that no additional fees or deficiencies in fees are owed. However, authorization is hereby given to charge our Deposit Account No. 13-0235 in the event any additional fees are owed.

Respectfully submitted,

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